

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT



Office of Public Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CLIFFORD W. TAYLOR RE-ELECTED CHIEF JUSTICE OF MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT

LANSING, MI, January 4, 2007 – Clifford W. Taylor will serve a second term as Chief Justice of the Michigan Supreme Court, following an election held by the Justices today.

Taylor, the Court's 63rd Chief Justice, said he appreciated "the opportunity to continue serving the Michigan judicial branch, and the people of Michigan. Being Chief Justice is an honor, but even more a responsibility."

Every two years, the Justices elect one of their colleagues to serve as Chief Justice for a term of two years.

Taylor, a native of Flint, received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and his law degree from George Washington University. After three years in the U.S. Navy as a line officer, he returned to Michigan and served as an assistant prosecuting attorney in Ingham County. In 1972, he joined the Lansing law firm of Denfield, Timmer and Seelye, which later became Denfield, Timmer & Taylor when Taylor became a partner in the firm. He remained in private practice for 20 years until his 1992 appointment to the Michigan Court of Appeals by Governor John Engler.

In August 1997, Engler appointed Taylor to the Michigan Supreme Court to fill the seat vacated by retired Justice Dorothy Comstock Riley. In 1998, Taylor ran and was elected to fill the balance of Riley's term. Taylor was re-elected to a full eight-year term in 2000.

Taylor's professional activities include serving on the Board of Directors of the National Conference of Chief Justices. He is a co-author of the West Publishing's Michigan Practice Guide on Torts. Taylor has also served on the Michigan State Board of Law Examiners, of which he was president from 1995-1996, and on the Michigan State Bar's Standing Committee on Character and Fitness and the Commission on the Courts in the 21st Century. A fellow of the Michigan State Bar Foundation, he is also a member of the Catholic Lawyers Guild and the Federalist Society's Michigan Chapter. His community activities include having served on the Board of Directors of the Chief Okemos Council of the Boy Scouts; he is also a former board member of the Michigan Dyslexia Institute.

Taylor resides in Laingsburg with his wife, Lucille.

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